



# Conservation Security Program in Nevada

You've decided you want to apply for the Conservation Security Program.

## *Now What?*

Once you've decided you are interested in CSP, you need to complete a few steps to deter the basic eligibility criteria and if you are qualified for the program. This fact sheet will help you determine your next steps.

## *Don't assume you're not eligible.*

Don't assume you're not eligible to participate in CSP. Attend the public meeting that will be held in your watershed area and talk with NRCS personnel.

## Eligibility, Qualifications and Steps to Apply

### **TO APPLY FOR CSP, A PRODUCER WILL NEED TO:**

**1)** Visit the Farm Service Agency to make sure your records are up-to-date in the USDA database. Depending on your agricultural operation, you may need to complete the following forms:

- 1) CCC-526 Payment Eligibility Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certification
- 2) AD-1026 Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification

If you're operating as anything other than an individual, you'll need to complete provide the following:

- 1) Copies of deeds/leases to land if not already on file with FSA
- 2) CCC-501A—with supporting documentation:
  - a. Partnership agreement
  - b. Articles of Incorporation
  - c. Trust papers
  - d. Legal documents for an estate
  - e. Proof of Signature Authority

**2)** Obtain a copy of the CSP self-assessment workbook either on-line at <http://www.nv.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp>, or at the Elko NRCS office listed on the back of this fact sheet.

**3)** Using the workbook, producers will be able to:

- Determine whether they meet the basic eligibility requirements for part or all of their operation.
- Document their stewardship work, including conservation practices installed on the farm or ranch by land use and location.
- Prepare a benchmark inventory documenting conservation treatments they have undertaken in each crop field, pasture, or range unit.

Documentation can vary from being as simple as a pocket calendar record or as complex as a computer program printout.

- 4) Attend a public meeting in your watershed area. Public meetings will be announced in March. Bring your completed workbook, documentation, and CSP application to the public meeting.
- 5) After attending a public meeting, set up an interview with NRCS personnel to go over any additional documentation.
- 6) Then, the NRCS National Office will determine the enrollment category for which the producer qualifies, based on their stewardship.
- 7) Finally, the NRCS National Office will select the categories to be funded for CSP contracts.
- 8) Producers will be contacted if they are selected for funding.

CSP will provide for fair treatment for tenants, allowing a tenant to apply for a contract and receive CSP payments on land meeting CSP standards, as long as the tenant controls the land for the period of the contract. If you are a tenant, please share this CSP information with the landowner.

### **COMPLETE YOUR CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP CONTRACT**

If you are selected, you will be contacted by the Elko NRCS office to finalize and sign your Conservation Stewardship Contract. The first year's payment will be made prior to September 30, 2006.

### **PUBLIC MEETINGS**

Public meetings will be held in your CSP designated watershed area in March. Please check with Elko NRCS office for details.

### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

All information provided will be kept confidential until a CSP contract is awarded. After a CSP contract is awarded, all information is protected by the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

For more information about CSP, contact the NRCS office for your watershed area:

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### **NRCS**

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### **ONLINE INFORMATION**

Additional information is online at  
<http://www.nv.nrcs.usda.gov>

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